

CALM BANDIT SCOOPS UP \$5000 AT SELF-SERVICE GAS STATION

The Only Newspaper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance, Plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

Torrance Herald



OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

News & Adv. FA 8-4000

Circulation FA 8-4004

43rd Year—No. 24



TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 1957

10¢ Per Copy

12 PAGES

New Research Center Approved

Cash Taken in Daylight Raid

A calm, cool bandit collected \$5000 when he robbed a self-service gas station at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Blvds. on Friday, according to police.

The station manager, Leo Levy, 43, of Los Angeles, said he was just taking a canvas bag with the money from a floor safe when the bandit entered silently and threatened him with a black revolver. "This is it. Give me the sack," the robber ordered.

After Levy turned over the money, the gunman put Levy into a storeroom but was unable to lock the door.

Levy said he emerged to see the bandit running east along Redondo Beach Blvd. before he disappeared.

The victim said the suspect was of medium build, light

complexioned, wearing a gray sports coat and red shirt. He appeared to be in his early 20's.

Levy said he was taking the money from the safe preparatory to cashing payroll checks for customers.

Investigators said the robber evidently had carefully planned the robbery and apparently had been observing handling of money at the station for some time.

For Fourth Time

Local Steel Plant Wins Safety Award

Local Man on Missing Ship

A Lomita man, Seaman Ronald J. Kordich, was aboard the military transport plane which was reported missing off the shores of Japan last Friday.

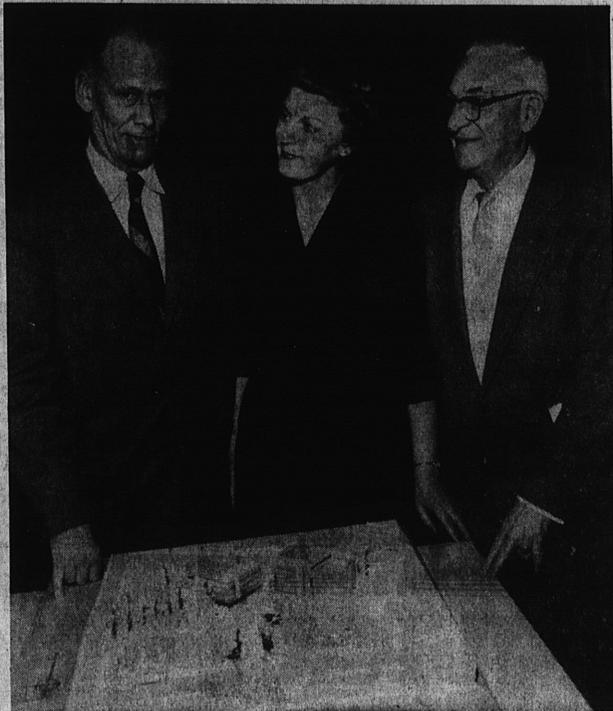
The 18-year-old sailor is the son of Mrs. Margaret Kordich, 2118 Pacific Coast Hwy., Lomita, and grandson of Mrs. Maud Wearden, 24448 Ward St., Torrance.

Mrs. Wearden reported that her grandson called Tuesday from Travis Air Force Base to say that his plane and another ship had developed engine trouble and were being held for minor repairs. He was being sent to Japan for a two-year hitch, she reported.

For the fourth consecutive year the Torrance Works of U. S. Steel's Columbia - Geneva Steel Division placed first in the steel mill classification at the eighth annual Business and Industry Safety Contest sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles Safety Council.

Accepting the plaque on behalf of Torrance employees at the annual banquet at the Ambassador hotel in Los Angeles Wednesday were H. P. Dotson, assistant general superintendent, and E. J. Ahlstrom, supervisor of safety and plant protection.

Winning the award for the best safety score in its classification for the calendar year of 1956 enabled the Torrance Works to maintain its record of having placed first each year since the steel mill category was established by the Greater Los Angeles Safety Council in 1953.



INSPECTING MODEL . . . Mayor H. F. B. Roessler of Palos Verdes Estates (left) inspects model of new Little Company of Mary Hospital after tripling his pledge to the fund campaign. With him are Mrs. John Tweedy, solicitations chairman for the drive, and Sam Levy, general chairman. Mayor Roessler made his announcement at a special meeting called to emphasize the need for contributions.

CAMPAIGN EXPEDITED

Mayor Roessler Triples Contribution to Hospital

Mayor H. F. B. Roessler of Palos Verdes has tripled his original contribution to the Little Company of Mary building fund campaign. He explained that at the time he

made his original donation he intended to repeat it for three years.

In order to expedite the goal of the campaign and to take benefit of the state and federal allocations, he has put his intentions in writing. He pointed out to others who have made gifts that they should join him in the use of the deferred payment plan in order to get the matching funds from the state and federal governments — two dollars for each dollar donated to the campaign.

Leads Contributors

Mayor Roessler was one of the first to contribute to the hospital fund. At the time of his contribution he stated that he was well aware of the critical shortage of hospital beds and that he considered it a privilege to participate in the worthy program. On increasing his contribution he said that he is gravely concerned about the possibility of losing the government aid for the hospital.

"Even if we qualify," he further pointed out, "we can lose many dollars by not putting our intentions of future contributions in writing. The Allocation Board pays no heed to verbal promises."

Mayor Roessler urged the people of the community to visit campaign headquarters, 1728 Andreo Ave., Torrance, to inspect the model of the Little Company of Mary Hos-

pital so that they will be informed as to the modern hospital they are to have. Roessler noted that his contribution entitles him to a memorial in the new structure. He said the information about memorials may be had by calling campaign headquarters, FAIRfax 8-8616.

Polio Shots Here Halted Temporarily

All vaccinations against poliomyelitis, except those scheduled to be given in school clinics, have been discontinued because of a shortage of vaccine, Dr. B. A. Kogan, Torrance district health officer, said Thursday.

It is hoped, the health officer said, that vaccine set aside for the schools will last until more vaccine will become available.

It is possible that a new supply adequate to cover adults and children may be available by April 20. The public will be alerted as soon as the health center vaccination program is resumed, Dr. Ray O. Gilbert, county health officer, said.

Inoculations scheduled for tomorrow night at the Fern Elementary school, have been canceled because of the new vaccine shortage, according to Mrs. D. D. Tuggle, president of the Fern-Greenwood PTA.

Court Hearing Delays Riviera Zone Action

Studying a full agenda Wednesday night, the Torrance Planning Commission:

1. Heard of plans for creation of an industrial park south of Torrance Blvd., between Hawthorne and Madrona.
2. Recommended a neighborhood shopping center at 174th and Arlington Ave.
3. Decided not to act on rezoning 13 Hollywood Riviera ocean lots until court action is taken.
4. Recommended that the Longren Aircraft Co. variance be revoked unless certain objectionable features are straightened out.

Plans Told

Plans for an industrial research and development center south of Torrance Blvd. between Madrona Ave. and Hawthorne Ave. were unveiled at the meeting.

It was announced that the Coleman Engineering Co. is interested in building a research center on the site which would employ some 300 or 400 persons. The firm would not be engaged in activities which would be a nuisance to the area, planners were assured. The building would be attractively designed, it was reported, and would maintain adequate parking.

Protest Made

Attorney Donald Hitchcock, representing the owners of property near Torrance Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave., protested that creation of an industrial development would shut out possible commercial expansion from the newly announced Del Amo Shopping Center. He pointed out that an industrial park near Carson and Crenshaw has not been filled yet.

Representatives of the Del Amo Estates Co., owners of the land, indicated that Coleman would be willing to leave 200 feet along Hawthorne Ave. for possible future commercial development.

Planners voted to recommend a neighborhood shopping center at the northwest corner of 174th and Arlington Ave. provided certain specifications are met.

Center Planned

Betty Carlin Redmon, the petitioner, told Planners that the buildings on the property would include a medical center and small shops, but no gas station. She sought a C-2 zone for the property.

Planners approved the plan, provided all signs face 174th St., a service road is built, and a block fence to surround the center is built. The matter will be forwarded to the City Council when a letter agreeing to these points is received.

The request of the Columbia Broadcasting System for a zone change on property at the northeast corner of 190th and Hawthorne was held over again, but planners voted to drop the item from the agenda if agreement on street alignment is not reached by that time.

Action Delayed

Action on rezoning of 13 lots immediately south of Torrance Beach was postponed by the Planners pending a Superior Court suit involving Hollywood Riviera property deed restrictions.

A number of Hollywood Riviera residents turned out to protest construction of apartment houses along the beach, cutting off their view. A zone change from apartment house

to single-family residence was sought.

Fred M. Marlowe of the Marlowe-Burns Realty Co., Los Angeles, and four other property owners of the 13 lots have filed suit to set aside the deed restrictions which would prevent apartment houses in the area.

By a 5-2 vote, planners voted not to act until the court case settled. It is scheduled to come up on March 25.

Action Recommended

After hearing several residents of the area, planners recommended that the Longren Aircraft variance for its Carson St. plant be revoked unless these conditions are met within 60 days:

1. Soundproofing of the building or restriction of work after 10 p.m.
2. Keep heavy trucks from using the Elm or Date Ave. entrances, with 5000-pound limits posted.
3. Provide adequate off-street parking.
4. Keeping grounds and area free of trash.

One resident told the commission that Longren's huge press had cracked the foundation of his house and another reported that heavy trucks did not use the Carson St. entrance, but used those in the residential areas.

Rezoning Voted

The commission approved plans to rezone 600 feet of land northwest of 182nd and Western Ave. for manufacturing use and to rezone property along Manhattan Pl. to R-2. It was specified that there was to be no digging for sand or clay in the rezoned territory.

The request for the B and A Investment Co. for a variance and conditional permit for

apartment houses in agriculturally zoned land on 174th St. between Yukon and Glenburn was held over until further information on sewers and architectural plans is presented.

Dr. Henry Levy's request for variance and conditional permit for a medical office at 4526 W. 191st St. brought considerable discussion. Dr. Levy said he planned to use a house for his offices, but would not live there. The property is located on a triangle which is not suitable for other purposes, he said.

Agreement Seen

Planners indicated general agreement with the proposition if 10 parking spaces are provided, the entrance is onto 190th St., there is no parking on 191st St., and a six-foot fence be built around it.

The petition of the Norris Construction Co. for a variance and conditional permit to build triplexes between Ainsworth and Prairie along 174th St. received a green light.

J. R. Klink's request for a variance and conditional permit to build an automatic laundry at 2157 Torrance Blvd. was recommended for denial after Planners were told that the city considered the sewer line inadequate.

Committee to Act

The request of Dr. Don C. Moshos for a variance for commercial development along Arlington Ave. between 237th and 238th Sts. was sent to committee for study. First formal hearing will be April 3.

Planners agreed to hold more meetings on zoning for the tract just west of the Civic Center, after the City Council indicated it did not favor the proposed agricultural, 10,000-square-foot provisions of the Planners' recommendations.

Local D. A. Claims 100 Warrants Lost

A complete check of all warrants issued since Jan. 1, 1953, shows that 100 issued to the Torrance Police Department are missing and that 93 of them were turned over to Investigator Jack Gee for collection. Assistant District Attorney William Keene said yesterday.

An auditor from the district attorney's office has been checking warrants issued to the Torrance Police Department, since the recent disclosure that money for several warrants which Gee allegedly

Young Boy Dies

Despite the efforts of the Torrance Fire Department, resuscitation squad, four-month-old Lawrence Armstrong died at 21817 Redbeam Ave. early yesterday morning. The boy was reported suffering from an infection.

had collected had not been turned in to the South Bay Court.

Keene said the audit revealed that the Torrance Police Department had 762 warrants outstanding, 100 of which could not be accounted for. Of these, 93 with a total of \$3681 bail, had been given to Gee for collection, he said. Seven others, with a total of \$346 bail, also were missing, he said.

Keene said he would request a recall of the warrants and if they were still found to be missing, he would order their reissue. In that way, he said, investigators can determine what happened to the warrants. Two more persons who allegedly paid Gee, but whose warrants never reached the court, were found this last week, Keene said.

The investigation will continue, Keene reported.



IT'S HABIT FORMING . . . Picking up the company's fourth consecutive award for safety are Columbia-Geneva Steel representatives H. P. Dotson, assistant general superintendent, and E. J. Ahlstrom, supervisor of safety and plant protection. Lucille Harrington of the Greater Los Angeles Safety Council is making the presentation.